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SHERMAN



SHERMAN

THE ANCESTRY
OF
JOHN TAYLOR SHERMAN
AND
HIS DESCENDANTS

BY
FRANK DEMPSTER SHERMAN

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THE SHERMAN FAMILY

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THE SHERMAN FAMILY originated in England. As long ago as the XIIIth Century the parish and court records in many of the counties contain references to persons bearing this name, and it seems reasonable to believe that by continued research the ancestral line eventually may be traced for several generations back of Thomas Sherman, of Diss, the first in this pedigree.

The surname, spelled variously, Shearman, Sherman, Sharman, obviously was derived from an occupation designated as shearmancraft, a *shearman* being one who sheared cloth. It may be a coincidence only, but it is a fact that a number of the Dedham Shermans, from whom the American families were extracted, were clothiers. One of these in his will leaves his *shearman's craft* to a son.

All of the known English ancestors lived within a radius of twenty miles, in the four neighboring villages of Diss, Yaxley, Colchester and Dedham. Diss, on the river Waveney, in the extreme southern part of Norfolk, was the home of Thomas(I) Sherman; Yaxley, in Suffolk, about four miles south of Diss, was the home of John(II) and his son Thomas(III); Colchester, on the river Colne, in the north-eastern part of Essex and about thirty-five miles south of Diss, was for a time the home of Henry(IV) who lived also in Dedham, on the river Stour, in the northern part of Essex. From Henry(IV) were descended most of the Shermans who came to America between 1630 and 1640.

In England the Shermans belonged to the plain people. They were substantial and God-fearing men engaged in the

trades and the professions, but none was of rank or title. Several of those who are mentioned in this pedigree were styled *Gentlemen* and occasionally a testator so styled himself,—*Gentleman* signifying one who bore a coat-of arms and was known to be descended from ancient families which always had been armigerous.

The coat-of-arms of the Shermans of Yaxley and Dedham appears on the tombstone of one of those buried in the Dedham churchyard. An illustration of it, accompanied by a brief description, was given in John Gwillim's "A Display of Heraldrie," published as long ago as 1660. A more detailed description is as follows: Arms, *or*, a lion rampant, *sable*, between three oak leaves, *vert*. Crest: a sea-lion sejant, *sable* (sometimes *or*).

When "God sifted a whole nation that He might send choice grain over into the wilderness," a dozen or more men and women, descendants of Henry(IV) Sherman, of Dedham, came to New England. Among these were:

1. EDMUND SHERMAN (1572-1641), from Dedham. Came probably with one of his sons about 1634-35. He died in New Haven, Ct. He was the father of Edmund, Rev. John and Hon. Samuel.

2. EDMUND SHERMAN (1599-1673), from Dedham. Came about 1634-35; settled in Watertown, Mass., where he was admitted freeman, May 25, 1636. He returned to England and died there.

3. REV. JOHN SHERMAN (1613-1685), from Dedham. Came in the ship *Elizabeth* "from Ipswich the last of April, 1634, bound for New England: Capt. Williã Andrews." In the list of passengers he is "John Sherman, aged 20 yeeres." After a brief stay in Watertown, Mass., he went as pastor to Milford, Ct., where he remained until 1647, when he returned to Watertown.

4. CAPT. JOHN SHERMAN (1612-1690-91), from Dedham. Came about 1636; settled in Watertown, Mass., where he was admitted freeman, May 17, 1637. One line of his descendants is given in this volume.

5. HON. PHILIP SHERMAN (1610-1687), from Dedham. Came in 1632-33; settled first in Roxbury, Mass., where he was admitted freeman, May 14, 1634; removed about 1637-38 to Portsmouth, R. I., and became one of the founders of the colony. He was a first cousin of Capt. John.

6. RICHARD SHERMAN (1577-1660), from Dedham. Came about 1634; settled in Boston, where he was a merchant. He was an uncle of Rev. John and Hon. Samuel.

7. SAMUEL SHERMAN (1601-1643), from Dedham. Came about 1636; settled in Boston, where he was admitted freeman, May 13, 1640. He was a brother of Hon. Philip.

8. HON. SAMUEL SHERMAN (1618-1700), from Dedham. Came about 1634-35; settled first in Wethersfield, Ct., and later removed to Stratford. He was a brother of Rev. John.

Another Sherman immigrant, whose descendants are numerous to-day, was:

9. WILLIAM SHERMAN (died 1699 in Marshfield), from Northampton. Came about 1632; settled first in Plymouth, Mass., and finally in Marshfield. He is usually called "William the Pilgrim." His ancestry has not been discovered.

There were also other early Shermans: James (1643), Edmund (1650) and William (1652), in Virginia; and Thomas, who came in the *Hoperwell*, 1634, "bound for

the Barbadoes." His age is given as 26. Still another Thomas is that one mentioned in the Court Records of Salem, Mass., 1642-1650. One of this name was in Connecticut soon after 1650, and is reported to have gone later to Long Island. A William and a Thomas were in New Jersey before 1700. None of these has been identified.

In America from the early colonial days down to the present time the Sherman family has maintained an honorable position, contributing its fair proportion of distinguished men; statesmen and soldiers of national reputation, governors of states, senators and congressmen, state legislators, judges and lawyers, physicians and surgeons, university professors, and authors, besides a great number of successful manufacturers, merchants and farmers. Its members are found in every state of the Union; good citizens all, faithful to the church and state, industrious and intelligent, with a reasonable pride in the character of their ancestors and a wholesome ambition for their descendants.

THE SHERMANS IN ENGLAND

NOTE

To Thomas Townsend Sherman, Esquire, the highest authority on all matters pertaining to the English Shermans, grateful acknowledgement is here made for his many courtesies and contributions. By his extensive researches he has been able to correct numerous errors in previously accepted records, and greatly to amplify the history of the family in England upon which he has been engaged for many years with a view to its ultimate publication.

THE SHERMANS IN ENGLAND

I. **THOMAS SHERMAN**, of Diss, co. Norfolk; died, 1492-93, at Diss; married **Agnes** —, who survived him.

Children:

i. **John**(11), m. Agnes Fuller.

ii. Agnes, m. John Clerk.

His will dated, Nov. 4, 1492; proved, Apr. 4, 1493.

Desires to be buried in the churchyard of the parish church of Diss. Bequeathes to the altar of said church, *6s. 6d.*; to repairs of the church *6s. 8d.*; to the Guild of St. Nicholas, *20d.*; to the Guild of Corpus Christi, *12d.*; to the high altar of Yaxley, *2s.*; to repairs of that church, *20d.*; to William Twyenham, his serving man, *6s. 8d.*; to each of his godsons and goddaughters, *4d.*; to the lane called "Styvys Lane," *6s. 8d.*; to repairs of Roydon church, 2 bushels of wheat and 4 bushels of malt; to repairs of Stufton church, 2 bushels of wheat and 4 bushels of malt; and to repairs of Burston church, the same.

Agnes, my wife, shall have my tenement (except three houses, etc.) next the tenement of Agnes Melton, with the croft lying between the land of Thomas Cowper of the one part, and the land in the tenure of Wm. Boby on the other part, for the term of her widowhood; also 8 cows.

John, my son, shall have my lands and tenements in Diss and Yaxley to fulfil this my last will.

To the Four orders of Friars at Norwich, to each of them, *3s. 4d.*

Will have a suitable priest to celebrate for my soul, and the souls of my parents and benefactors, for the space of 4 years.

To Agnes, wife of John Clerk, a heifer of the best; to Thomas Clerk, my godson, a heifer and

a calf; to Elizabeth Clerk, a heifer; to each of the sons of John Clerk, a calf; to each of the daughters of John Sherman, a calf; to Thomas Sher-eve, my godson, a calf.

Said John Sherman and John Clerk, residuary legatees and executors.

Not witnessed. Proved by John Sherman, with power reserved for a commission to the other executor.

(This will is in Latin.)

II. JOHN SHERMAN, son of Thomas and Agnes (—) Sherman; died, 1504, at Yaxley, co. Suffolk; married **Agnes Fuller**, daughter of Thomas. She survived him and married, secondly, Robert Hendry.

Children, under sixteen years of age in 1504:

- i. **Thomas**(III), m. Jane Waller.
- ii. Margery, m. Robert Lockwood, of Eye.

His will dated, Aug. 10, 1504; proved, Dec. 12, 1504.

To be buried in the parish yard of Yaxley. Bequests to church of Yaxley; to the Guild of St. Thomas, of Yaxley; and to the church of Dysse.

To wife, Agnes, tenements and lands in Yaxley, called Hobbes, and tenements in Yaxley "wherein I now dwell;" or else, tenement in Dysse, except a close called Elmswell. If wife die before son Thomas becomes twenty-two, lands to be let until that time, and then Thomas to have them, he paying to his sister Margery when she becomes twenty-two years of age, ten pounds.

If Margery decease before twenty-two, Thomas to provide a priest a year "to sing for my soul and my friends' souls," etc.

If Thomas decease before twenty-two, tenements and lands to be sold, and Margery, if she live, to have to her marriage twenty pounds.

If Thomas and Margery at the age of sixteen years will not be content to be ruled by my executors, then Thomas is to have of them every year, *26s. 8d.* and Margery, yearly, *13s. 4d.*, until they come to the age of twenty-two years.

The close called Elmswell, in Dysse, afore excepted, to be sold.

To son Thomas, at twenty-two, four quarters of barley and a cow.

To daughter Margery, at same age, eight comb of barley and a cow.

To Robert, "my servant," eight bushels of barley.

To each of my god-children, *12d.*

Wife, Agnes, and Thomas Fuller, "my father-in-law," to be executors.

III. THOMAS SHERMAN, Gent., son of John and Agnes (Fuller) Sherman; born about 1490, at Yaxley, co. Suffolk; died, 1551, at Yaxley; married **Jane Waller**, daughter of John and Margaret (Thorolde) Waller of Wortham, co. Suffolk. She survived him and married, secondly, — Gardiner, as whose widow she died, 1572-73.

Children :

- i. Thomas(IV), buried, Sept. 17, 1585, Yaxley; m. (1) Elizabeth Yaxley; m. (2) Barbara Wheatcroft.
- ii. Richard, buried, Mar. 28, 1587, Diss; m. Margaret (Lane?).
- iii. John, buried Sept. 10, 1587, Ipswich; m. (1) Elizabeth —; m. (2) Marian Whiting; m. (3) Margaret —.
- iv. **Henry**, m. (1) Agnes (Butter?); m. (2) Maryan (Smyth) Willson; m. (3) Margery —.
- v. William, buried, June 1, 1583, Ipswich; m. Faith Lanye.
- vi. Robert, (?); not named in wills.

- vii. Anthony, buried, Sept. 7, 1582, Roydon; m. Mary Guydat.
- viii. Francis, buried, Oct. 3, 1605, Diss; m. Sybil Grey.
- ix. Bartholomew, m. —.
- x. James, died, 1577, Yaxley; m. Margery, who survived him and married, secondly, Gyles Poolye, "Vycare of Yaxleye."

The last four children were minors, under twenty-two years of age, in 1551.

Thomas Sherman was an attorney at law with a large practice in the Court of Common Pleas. He was lord of several manors; churchwarden of Yaxley, and Deputy Sheriff in 1540 and 1546. The court records show that he was a great litigant himself and that Jane, his wife, when occasion offered, was able to do her share of any fighting.

In Star Chamber Proceedings is a bill of complaint of Sir John Wiseman, Knight, against Thomas Sherman of Yaxley, stating that on 22 April, 22 Henry VIII (1530), complainant sent two of his servants to distrain for unpaid rent of an acre of land in Gors Close, co. Suffolk, part of the manor of Swattysshall owned by complainant, which rent Sherman had refused to pay for three years; that said servants seized by way of distress a plow with four horses; and that as they were driving in the King's highway, Johanne Sherman and Margery Hege, with staves in their hands, and certain other riotous persons "made a sawte & fray upon the said ij servants & put them in daunger of their lyvis & grevously did bete William Erysshe & take away the said distress from them." Afterwards, on 24 April, 23 Henry VIII (1531) complainant's servants again distrained the plow and horses "but as they came thetherward, mette with them by the way, Johanne Sherman, the wyff of Thomas

Sherman, Thomas Dykon and Margery Hedge with Stavys & Stonys in their lappys, as well as other servants of the said Thomas Sherman, who with force & armis did fyght with them & them did bett, wond & ill intret."

His will dated, Jan. 20, 1550-51; proved, Nov. 16, 1551.

Desires to be buried in the church of Yaxley, and gives to the high altar of said church, *3s. 4d.*

To the poor of Yaxley, *6s. 8d.*; the poor of Eye, *10s.*; the poor of Thrandeston, Burgate, Diss and Roydon, *3s. 4d.*

To wife, Jane, houses and lands in Yaxley and Eye; wheat and malt; and live stock; household goods; silver, etc. If she remarry, then to son, Thomas.

To son Thomas, silver; a gelding and four horses.

To son Richard, "twenty markes over and besides all such moneye as I have given hym or lent hym, which is *£30.*"

To son John, *£40.*

To son Henry, *£40*, "when he cometh out of his prentyshode."

To son William, *£40*, same condition.

To son Anthony, *£40*, at twenty-two years.

To son Francis, lands in Dysse, "late bought of John Waren;" also all lands in Breseworth, co. Suffolk, at twenty-two years.

Profits on these lands to "fynde said Francis to Scole and other lernyng" until twenty-two.

Overplus of the "profytts of said landes," etc., to find sons Bartholomew and James "to scole" until their twenty-second year.

To son Francis, *£5*, at twenty-two

To son Bartholomew, *£40*. Same age.

To son James, *£40*. Same age.

To each godchild, *12d.*

To "syster Lokwood an Annuitie" of *20s.*, and to each of her children now married *10s.*, and to each one unmarried, *20s.*

To Robert Woodcroft, *40s.*, when twenty-two.

Robert Kene, of Thrandeston, gentleman, and Thomas "my sonne" to be executors. Said Robert to have 20*s.* for his labors.

Desires Sir Henry Bedyngfeld, Knight, to be an overseer of his will, he to receive 40*s.*

THOMAS SHERMAN.

Witnesses:

JOHN WHETHYNGHAM,
EDWARD TOROLD,
WILLIAM EGLYN, Vicar of Yaxley.

The will of Jane Gardiner, widow of Thomas Sherman, and later of — Gardiner, dated, Jan. 10, 1572-73, and proved, Mar. 11, 1572-73.

To be buried in the church of Yaxley by my late husband Thomas Sherman.

To the poor of Yaxley, 20*s.*; the poor of Roydon 5*s.*; the poor of Stokeaishe, 5*s.*

To son Anthony Sherman, £20; with bed and bedsteads, and four kine.

To son Henry Sherman, £20. To son James Sherman, £20, and the bed that I now lie upon.

To son Anthony, one silver salt parcel and six silver spoons.

The £20 each, to Anthony, Henry and James to be paid by eldest son Thomas Sherman, "parcell of five score pounds w^{ch} he oweth me."

To William, Robert, Bettrice, Margaret and Marie Sherman, sones and daughters of Anthony Sherman, and unto Brigett and Marie Sherman, daughters of James Sherman, sixty pounds, at twenty years of age. To be paid by my executors whereof Thomas Sherman my eldest son oweth me forty pounds and Richard Sherman twenty pounds and odde money. Silver spoons to children of Anthony Sherman.

To sons, James and Anthony, "all pewter as is in the counter at Roydon."

To Elizabeth Sherman, wife of son Thomas, my velvet hood, etc.

To Sybil Sherman, wife of son Francis, a damask kirtle, velvet hat and a grograine kirtle with a guard of velvet.

To Marie Sherman, wife of son Anthony, a worsted gown guarded with velvet, "said Anthony paying unto James Sherman *13s. 3d.* in consideration of the same."

To Margery Sherman, wife of son James; to the wife of Bartholomew Sherman and to Elizabeth Sherman, wife of son John, various articles of clothing.

To Thomas Sherman, son of my eldest son Thomas, and to Elizabeth Sherman, daughter of my son Thomas, *20s.* each at the age of twenty years.

Eldest son Thomas and son Anthony to be executors. If said Thomas refuse, then son Francis Sherman in his place.

JANE + GARDINER.
her mark.

IV. HENRY SHERMAN, son of Thomas and Jane (Waller) Sherman; born, about 1520, at Yaxley, co. Suffolk; died, 1590, at Dedham, co. Essex; married, first, **Agnes Butter**, who was buried, Oct. 14, 1580, at Dedham: married, secondly, June 5, 1581, at Dedham, **Maryan (Smyth) Willson**, widow of Edmund Willson: and married, thirdly, **Margery** —, who survived him.

Children:

- i. **Henry**(v), m. Susan Lawrence, June 14, 1568.
- ii. Edmund, buried, Dec. 22, 1600, Dedham; m. (1) Anne Pellate, Apr. 25, 1569; m. (2) Anne Clere, Sept. 11, 1584.
- iii. John, buried, Oct. 16, 1576. His will, 1576, names brother Robert, and bros.-in-law, Wm. Pettfyeld and Nycollas Fynce.

- iv. Judith, buried, Apr. 9, 1601, Dedham; m. William Petfield, Oct. 27, 1566.
- v. Alice, buried, Oct. 20, 1580, Dedham; m. Nicholas Fynce.
- vi. Thomas, m. —.
- vii. Robert, bapt., Feb. 6, 1560; died, 1601-02; m. (1) Barbara Browne, Dec. 9, 1583; m. (2) Bridget Jenney. He was a physician.

Henry Sherman was a well-to-do clothier in Colchester.

His will dated, Jan. 20, 1589-90; proved, July 25, 1590.

To be buried in the parish church of Dedham.

To Dr. Chapman, the preacher of Dedham, six pounds.

To Mr. Parker, forty shillings.

To the poor of Dedham, twenty pounds, to be a continual stock for the poor to the world's end, and it shall be ordered at the discretion of the Governors of the Free School of Dedham.

To Henry Shearman my son my shearman's craft to him and his heirs forever, and all the household (stuff) in his house.

To son Henry's children, that is to say, Henry, Samuel, Daniel, John, Ezechiell, Phebe, Nathaniel and Anne Shearman, to each of them five pounds apiece, to the sons at two and twenty and the daughters at one and twenty.

To son Edmonde Shearman, ten pounds.

To Edmonde Shearman, the son of my son Edmonde, thirteen pounds, thirteen shillings and four pence at two and twenty, and if he die before then to be divided between Richard, Bezaliell and Anne Shearman, the children of my son Edmonde.

To Richard, Bezaliell, Anne and Sarah Shearman, the children of my son Edmonde, forty shillings apiece; to sons at two and twenty and to the daughters at one and twenty.

To my son-in-law Wm. Petfield twenty pounds and to his three children, Richard, Susan and Elizabeth Petfield, six pounds thirteen shillings four pence (at ages as above).

Margerye my wife shall have all my broom wood and logs which I have at my departure and twenty shillings of money and that twelve pounds due unto me from Fendring if my executors can recover it of him. She shall have her dwelling for two years in that part of the house wherein we do now dwell, that is in the lower parlour and the two chambers next Mr. Rudd's and part of the back-house if my son Robert do enjoy the house. But if it be redeemed and he do not enjoy it, then I will that my son Robert shall pay unto Margerye my wife four pounds for two years' dwelling.

To my wife my tipped pot, term of her life, and then to my daughter Judith.

To my son Robert three score pounds, the which I give for the state of the house wherein I now dwell, which was lately Richard King's, beer brewer, of Colchester. Other real estate to Robert.

To Jane and Anne Shearman, daughters of Robert, five pounds apiece, at one and twenty.

To Robert all of the household stuff which I had before I married Margerye my wife. To him also my silver and gilt goblet, a sword and bill, etc.

To my daughter Judith Petfield the chest and linen upon the "soller."

To my son-in-law, Nicholas Fynce, forty shillings. To my son Henry Shearman twelve silver spoons. To Henry my son all my armour except that which I gave to my son Robert. Other bequests to children.

To Christopher Stone a cloth doublet.

To each of my sons, Edmonde, Henry and Robert, twenty shillings in gold, and to each of their wives twenty shillings in gold, and to daughter Judith the same.

Sons Henry and Edmonde to be executors.

HENRY + SHEARMAN.
his mark.

V. **HENRY SHERMAN**, son of Henry and Agnes (Butter) Sherman; born, about 1545, at Dedham, co. Essex; buried, Aug. 28, 1610, at Dedham; married, June 14, 1568, at Moze, co. Essex, **Susan Lawrence**, who survived him by only a few days, and was buried, Sept. 13, 1610, at Dedham.

Children: Dedham.

- i. Phebe(vi), bapt., May 1, 1570; m. Simon Fenn.
- ii. Henry, bapt., Aug. 26, 1571; buried, Feb. 7, 1643; m. Mary —.
- iii. Samuel, bapt., Jan. 11, 1573; died, 1615; m. Philippa (Ward?).
- iv. Ann, bapt., Aug. 7, 1575; died, 1638; m. (1) Anthony Whiting, Jan. 8, 1594-95; m. (2) Thomas Wilson.
- v. Daniel, born about 1577; died, 1634; m. (1) Christian Chapman, Aug. 18, 1601; m. (2) Sarah Mitchell, Apr. 23, 1622.
- vi. Nathaniel, bapt., June 19, 1580; died, June 21, 1580.
- vii. Nathaniel, bapt., July 11, 1582; died, 1615; m. (1) Phebe —; m. (2) Priscilla Anger.
- viii. **John**, bapt., Aug. 17, 1585; buried, Jan. 24, 1615-16; m. Grace —.
- ix. Ezekiel, bapt., July 25, 1587; buried, Jan. 21, 1653-54; m. (1) Rachel Alefounder; m. (2) Anne —.
- x. Edmund, born about 1590; m. Judith Anger, May 15, 1611.
- xi. Mary, bapt., July 27, 1592; not named in wills.

Henry Sherman, Jr., was a wealthy clothier in Dedham. His will dated, Aug. 21, 1610; proved, Sept. 8, 1610.

To wife Susan the house wherein I now dwell, and the lands, with the "Oadhouse," etc., belonging, holden of the manor of Dedham Hall, by estimation twenty acres, which I had of the surrender of my father. The above to her for life, and then to my son Henry. Other bequests to wife and son Henry, including a bed and bedstead in the parlour, a cubbord in the parlour and two chests in the same place, the one a Danske chest and the other a joined chest.

To son Nathaniel Shearman the house wherein William King now dwelleth, with lands belonging, called Scotts, by estimation five acres, he to pay to my son Daniel Shearman ten pounds in two years. To son Nathaniel also my broad loom now in occupation of John Orris of Lawford, with the furniture belonging.

To John and Ezechiell Shearman my sons all those lands which were late Doctor Shearman's called Heckell and Golding acre, to be equally divided betwixt them. Other lands to these two (severally).

To son Edmund, Garlick field and Ardley lands and Boremans acre. Reference to cousin Edmund Galloway.

To Henry Fenn, son of Simon Fenn, five pounds.

To Mr. Rogers, preacher of Dedham, eight pounds. To poor of Dedham, 40s.

To Phebe Fenn my daughter. (Mentions son-in-law Symon Fenn, deceased.)

To my daughters-in-law, each of them 10s.

To Anne Petfield, daughter of William Petfield, 40s.

To Anne Shearman, my brother Dr. Shearman's daughter, five pounds which was the gift of her grandfather at her full age of two and twenty years; it was once before paid into her father's hands, yet fearing that she should be voyd of it

for want of provision on his part I will that it be paid as aforesaid.

To Gilbert Hilles my brother-in-law. To my brother Lawrence of Esthorpe.

"My two sons Henry and Samuel Shearman shall sell my 8 acres of land in the Hallfield to the best advantage of my children's children," etc.

George Cole the elder, William Cole, Edmund Shearman and John Pye shall indifferently divide my goods unbequeathed betwixt my children.

Susan, my wife, to be sole executrix, "and I give her my part of the lease of the Reyes."

Appoint Edmund Galloway, clerk, the supervisor of this my last will and for his pains he shall have twenty shillings.

HENRY SHEARMAN.

Will of Susan Shearman, widow of Henry Shearman, Jr. Dated, Aug. 31, 1610; proved, Sept. 12, 1610.

To son Henry Shearman, my silver and gilt salt and my best Tapestry coveringe.

To son Samuel Shearman, my 6 silver spoons which my husband gave me marked with E and S.

To son Samuel Shearman, my feather bed in the parlor, with the bolster, a pair of blankets and a covering.

To son Daniel Shearman, the summe of £20; also foure of my 8 beasts which my husband gave me and are marked out for my use.

To son Nathaniel Shearman, the summe of £20.

To son John Shearman, my cubbord standing in the Parlour.

To son Ezekiel Shearman, the summe of £10; also my new silver cup.

To son Edmund Shearman, the summe of £10; also my Bedstead in the parlour with the flocke bed upon it and the flocke bolster and the yellowe Rugg.

To daughter, Phebe Fenn, one cowe, my least silver cupp and one of my needlework cushions.

To daughter, Anne Whiting, two beasts, one needlework cushion and my Danske cheste in the Parlour.

To son Daniel's wief, my best gowne.

To son Nathaniel's wief, my Danske chest which standeth in the Guest Chamber.

To Robert Salmon's son, my great grandchild, one cove.

To Mary Shearman, my son Samuel's daughter, my joyned chest in the Parlour.

To Susan Shearman, my son Daniel's daughter, my leaved Table in the Parlour.

To my brother Gilbert Hilles, 10s.

To Mr. Rogers, my black mare.

To Susan Galloway, daughter of my cousin Edmund Galloway, my best violet petticoat.

All the residue of my goods unbequeathed shall be equally divided amongst all my children.

My son, Henry Shearman, to be sole executor, and for his paines I give him the lease of the Reyes given me by my husband.

SUSAN + SHEARMAN.
her mark.

In the presence of Edmund Galloway and John Pye.

VI. JOHN SHERMAN, son of Henry and Susan (Lawrence) Sherman; baptized, Aug. 17, 1585, at Dedham, co. Essex; buried, Jan. 24, 1615-16, at Great Horkesley, co. Essex; married **Grace** — (possibly a daughter of Tobias Makin, of Fingringhoe, co. Essex), who survived him and married, secondly, in England, Thomas Rogers,*

* Thomas and Grace (Sherman) Rogers had a daughter Elizabeth Rogers, bapt., Nov. 16, 1617, at Dedham, co. Essex. She married Daniel Smith, and had a son Daniel. (*Vide*, will of Grace Porter.)

It has long been stated that Grace (Sherman) Rogers married for her third husband, William Palmer, of Hampton, Mass., the father-in-law of Capt. John Sherman. This is incorrect. (*Vide*, page 32.)

who was buried at Watertown, Mass., Nov. 12, 1638, aged 50 years. She then married, thirdly, Roger Porter, who died at Watertown, April 3, 1654, aged 71 years. She died, June 3, 1662, at Watertown, "aged about 70 years."

Children: Great Horkesley.

- i. **John**(1), bapt., Sept. 3, 1612; m. Martha Palmer.
- ii. Richard, bapt., Aug. 7, 1614; remained in England.

The will of Grace Porter. Middlesex County, Mass., Probates:

Know all men by these presents that I, Grace Porter, widdow, of Watertown in the County of Middlesex in New England, inhabitant, being in perfect memory but under the afflicting hand of the ever gracious God, my Lord and maker, not knowing how soone it may be his good pleasure to call me out of this evil world; after solemn profession of unfayned willingness to resigne to his Sovereigne disposal and of an humble confidence and trust in his rich mercy and free grace in Jesus Christ for what concerns my everlasting estate in another world; I do for the ordering of what temporall estate I shall leave behind me, after my debts payd and funerall expences discharged, make this my Last will and testament; giving and bequeathing as followeth:

Imprimis. I give to my Sonne John Sherman my dividend of upland.

Item. I do give to my daughter Elisabeth Smith all my marsh being by estimation foure acres more or lesse to be to her and her sonne Daniel after her.

Item. I do give to my said daughter Elisabeth all my wearing clothes and all my linnen and also my great kittle.

Item. I doe give to my grand child Daniel Smith my cow that is with calf.

Item. I doe give my other cow to my grand child John Sherman.

Item. I doe give to my grand child Martha Sherman my warming pan.

Item. I doe give to my grand children Mary Sherman and Sarah Sherman to each of them two pewter dishes; and to Joseph Sherman five shillings.

My will is, that the remainder of my estate be divided equally between my said son John Sherman and my said daughter Elisabeth Smith each of them to possesse and enjoy their part or half which by such division shall be set out for them.

Whereas I am indebted to my daughter Elisabeth Smith, my mind is she should be satisfied in the first place in such goods as shee shall choose.

I doe also hereby declare, that for such things as I left with my said daughter Elisabeth (of the particulars of which, my son Sherman had a note) I had them againe, since, of her, soe that shee is not to be called for any account about them upon that or any other note to that purpose.

I do further hereby constitute and choose my brother John Cooledge and Lieutenant Richard Beers as executors of this will intreating my cousin Joh: Sherman as overseer, to see my mind full filled, unto whome I give as followeth to my said Cousin Sherman the sume of fourty shillings: and twenty shillings apeice to each of my said executors brother Cooledge and Lieutenant Beers.

This is my Last will and Testament witness my hand and seal.

GRACE + PORTER.
her mark

*Subscribed sealed and
delivered in the pres-
ence of us*

JOHN SHERMAN*
MARY SHERMAN*

* These are Rev. John(t) Sherman and his wife.

(In the margin.)

Lieut. Beers & Jno Cooledge appearing in Court 17 (4) 1662, openly disclaimed their executorship to this will.

Mr. Jno Sherman & Jno Cooledge appearing in Court at Charlestown the 17th (4) 1662, attested on oath that they were present wth Grace Porter, deceased signed & published this her last will and testament & that she was of a disposing mind w^h she so did being about a year now past.

Entered & Recorded in the Register of Wills and Inventories lib. 2, page 41. 17 (4) 1662.

THOMAS DANFORTH. R.

Inventory of Grace Porter y^e relique of Roger Porter now deceased taken June 14th 1662.

On one page of the Inventory a note about the division of Grace Porter's estate says:—

“In case their brother in England shall legally obtain against the estate, that they joyently & equally do tender estate for satisfying the same that so neither side may be unequally represented by this award.”

This 8th of July 1662.

SIMON WILLARD.
RICHARD RUSSELL.
THOMAS DANFORTH.

This “brother in England” was Richard Sherman, brother of Capt. John(1).

THE SHERMANS IN AMERICA

NOTE

It is to be remembered that all dates prior to Sept. 3, 1752, in these records are Old Style: to make them New Style eleven days should in every case be added. Also, that when New England was first settled it was the custom to number the months; March being called the first month and February the twelfth: this accounts for the use of double dates between Jan. 1st and March 25th. March 25th, *Annunciation Day*, was called the first day of the year.

THE SHERMANS IN AMERICA

VII.(1) **CAPT. JOHN SHERMAN**, son of John and Grace (Makin?) Sherman; bapt., Sept. 3, 1612, at Great Horkesley, co. Essex, England; died, Jan. 25, 1690-91, at Watertown, Mass.; married, about 1636-37, **Martha Palmer**, daughter of William. She died, Feb. 7, 1700-01, at Watertown.

Children: Watertown.

- i. John(2), b. 2 d. 9 m. 1638; supposed to have been killed in King Philip's War.
- ii. Martha, b. 21 d. 12 m. 1640; m. Francis Bowman, 26 d. 7 m., 1661.
- iii. Mary, b. 25 d. 1 m. 1643; d. Nov. 6, 1667; m. Timothy Hawkins, 18 d. 11 m. 1666.
- iv. Elishabah, b. —; d. 15 d. 1 m. 1649.
- v. Sarah, b. 17 d. 11 m. 1647; d. June 17, 1667.
- vi. **Joseph**, b. 14 d. 3 m. 1650; m. Elizabeth Winship, Nov. 18, 1673.
- vii. Grace, b. 20 d. 10 m. 1653; d. Feb. 21, 1654-55.

John Sherman came to America about 1635-36, and settled in Watertown, Mass., where he was one of the most useful and prominent inhabitants. Admitted free-man there on May 17, 1637, he was Selectman many times between 1637 and 1680; Representative from Watertown to the General Court in 1651, 1653 and 1663; and Steward of Harvard College in 1660. He also taught school for a time. He was a land surveyor and as such received several important appointments; one, on Aug. 1, 1652,

being to take "the latitude of the northermost part of the Merrimac River." At this time he was called "Sergeant at Watertown." In 1680 he was one of the three men appointed to lay out a highway to Sudbury. As architect, contractor and builder, an example of his work was the Meeting-house erected in 1655. Of his service as Steward of Harvard College a glimpse may be had in an old account book of the Stewards of that institution, wherein occurs this entry:

"Thomas Wibourne hath satisfied of his debt for his brother to the colledge, and to the new steward Ensign Shermã, the sume of foure pound ten shillings. By me, CHARLES CHAUNCEY.*

In the Watertown Records John Sherman is most frequently referred to as Sergeant, Ensign and Lieutenant; he was appointed Captain, June 11, 1680, by the General Court. The original record of his death reads: "M^r John Sherman Capt: of the training Band in Watertowne Dyed the :25th: of January 16⁹⁰/₉₁:" that of his wife, "M^{rs} Martha Sherman wif of Capt: Jno: Sherman Deced the 7th of February 1700."

He died intestate. On Feb. 13, 1690-91, at a County Court holden at Charlestown, Administration was granted to Joseph Sherman of Watertown, on the Estate of his father, M^r Jn^o Sherman of Watertown, decd, having presented inventory and given bond. (Dated at Charlestown, Feb^r 14th: 1690-91.)

Bond: Joseph Sherman principal and Gershom Swan of Menotomy surety, in £150. Dated, Feb. 13, 1690-91.

JOSEPH SHERMAN.

GERSHOM SWAN, by mark.

Witnessed by Jonas Hood and Sam^l Phipps.

* Charles Chauncey was President of Harvard College.

Inventory dated, Feb. 12, 1690-91. Total £73-17s.-8d. Includes books, surveying instruments, a silver cup, two silver spoons, a gun, a rapier, a "cutlash," a carbine and two belts. "Memorand: The Houseing & Lands are excepted and not inserted in this Inventory, being given to me by my Father in a covenant made on my marriage & as may more at large appear in said covenant under his hand."

JOSEPH SHERMAN.

Bond, dated Aug. 20, 1694, of Martha Bowman of Watertown, widow, & John Cutler of Charlestown, & John Eveleth of Manchester, Essex co., in £28.

Condition: Whereas Martha Bowman has received £14-14s.-2d. her part of "moveable estate of Capt. Jno. Sherman late of Watertown, her husband Dec'd,"—If she shall refund her rateable proportion of all debts due from said estate as yet unknown & administrator's charges,—to be void.

MARTHA M. BOWMAN.

Administrator's Account dated, Mar. 5, 1693-94. Total, £73-17s.-8d. Credits: "Physick, attendance in sickness and funeral, £5-11s.-11d. Debts paid: Mrs. Martha Bowman for cheese; Jno. Sherman for tobacco, 3s,— "and said accompt: Prays further allowance for what hath been lost by casualty vizt., 1 feather Pillow which being hung out to air was torn to pieces by swine,"—6s.

Proof that Capt. John Sherman's wife was the daughter of William Palmer is found in the following deed, dated 10:1:1645:

"William (mark) Palmer of Hampton, yeoman, in consideration of a release of a parcel of land in Great Ormsbye, in Old England, by his daughter Martha Palmer, now the wife of John Sherman of Watertown, in which his said daughter had an interest to the value of 105 li., sold to the said John Sherman and Martha, his wife, his dwelling and house lot and all other land at Newberry,

about twenty acres, also all his houses and land in Hampton, about one hundred and ten acres of upground, meadow and marsh, most of it already laid out, as mentioned in the town book of Hampton, with all commonage, etc., also "three coves, two yerlen steeres, Calves & and one sucking Calfe & all my houshold stuff my weareing Close only excepted."

Wit: TIMOTHIE DALTON and WILLM. HOWARD.
Acknowledged, Mar. 12, 1645, before
SAMUEL SYMONDS.

In a deed dated, Oct. 6, 1647, Ann Palmer is mentioned as the widow of William Palmer of Hampton, and is then the wife of Francis Plumer.

These deeds show conclusively that Grace, the mother of Capt. John Sherman did not marry William Palmer for her third husband.

VIII.(2) JOSEPH SHERMAN, son of Capt. John and Martha (Palmer) Sherman; born, 14 d. 3 m. 1650, at Watertown; died Jan. 20, 1730-31, at Watertown; married, Nov. 18, 1673, at Watertown, **Elizabeth Winship**, daughter of Lieut. Edward and Elizabeth (Parke) Winship, who was born, April 15, 1652, at Cambridge, Mass., and died, —.

Children: Watertown.

- i. John(3), b. Jan. 11, 1674-75; d. Nov. 11, 1756, at Marlborough, Mass.; m. Mary Bullen.
- ii. Edward, b. Sept. 2, 1677; d. Dec. 4, 1766, at Wayland, Mass.; m. Sarah Parkhurst, Oct. 16, 1700.
- iii. Joseph, b. Feb. 8, 1679-80.
- iv. Samuel, b. Nov. 28, 1681; m. Abiah Paine.
- v. Jonathan, b. Feb. 24, 1683-84; m. Elizabeth Cutler.

- vi. Ephraim, b. Mar. 16, 1685-86; d. Sept. 20, 1686.
- vii. Elizabeth, b. July 15, 1687; m. — Stephens.
- viii. Martha, bapt. Sept. 1, 1689; m. Rev. Benjamin Shattuck.
- ix. **William**, b. June 28, 1692; m. (1) Rebecca Cutler, July 21, 1714; m. (2) Mehetabel Wellington, Sept. 13, 1715.
- x. Sarah, b. June 2, 1694.
- xi. Nathaniel, b. Sept. 19, 1696; m. Mary Livermore, May 31, 1726.

Corporal Joseph Sherman, like his father, was one of Watertown's prominent citizens. He served in King Philip's War, in 1675-76, under Captains Poole and Brattle. He was Constable from 1682 to 1684; "Tythingman," 1685-86; "Hogrif and fence viewer," 1692 and 1697; Assessor, 1695; Surveyor, 1700-01; Selectman for seven years, 1700-1712; and Representative in the General Court or Assembly at Boston, from 1702 to 1705. He is said to have been a blacksmith.

He died intestate. Administration on his estate was granted, Nov. 29, 1731, to his son, John Sherman, of Marlborough, Mass., husbandman. Andrew Wilson, of Cambridge, and Joshua Hemenway, of Framingham, on bond. No amount named in bond, but the memorandum of appointment says it was meant for £500.

On Apr. 3, 1732, the administrator complains that a considerable part of the personal estate of the deceased is now in the hands of Nathaniel Sherman, of Hapanamisco, Worcester county, which he refuses to deliver up. Later, the said Nathaniel appeared and acknowledged possession; the property including books, plans of land, "pit chains and cap^{tns} leading staff."

Nathaniel was John's brother and the youngest child of Joseph Sherman.

IX.(3) WILLIAM SHERMAN, son of Joseph and Elizabeth Winship Sherman; born, June 28, 1692, at Watertown, Mass.; died, Mar. 20, 1741, at Stoughton, Mass.; married first, July 21, 1714, at Charlestown, Mass., **Rebecca Cutler**, daughter of Rev. Timothy and Elizabeth (Hilton) Cutler, who was bapt., Feb. 16, 1690, at Charlestown, and died, Jan. 22, 1714-15, at Charlestown: married secondly, Sept. 13, 1715, by Jonas Bond, Justice of the Peace, **Mehetabel Wellington**, daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Sweetman) Wellington, who was born, Feb. 26, 1687-88, at Watertown, Mass., and died, April 12, 1776, at New Haven, Conn.

Child by first marriage: Charlestown.

- i. William(4), b. Jan. 21, 1714-15; died, aged about 6 months.

Children by second marriage; ii, iii, Watertown. iv, v, Newton. vi-viii, Stoughton.

- ii. William, b. Mar. 20, 1716-17; d. Apr. 20, 1756; m. Ruth Terrill, Apr. 18, 1743.
- iii. Mehetabel, b. —; m. John Battell, Apr. 26, 1739.
- iv. **Roger**, b. Apr. 19, 1721; d. July 23, 1793; m. (1) Elizabeth Hartwell, Nov. 17, 1749; m. (2) Rebecca Prescott, May 12, 1763.
- v. Elizabeth, b. Apr. 5, 1723; d. Jan. 9, 1793; m. James Buck, Feb. 14, 1748-49.
- vi. Nathaniel, b. Mar. 5, 1726; grad. Princeton, 1752; d. July 18, 1797; m. Lydia Merriam, Mar. 1, 1759.

- vii. Josiah, b. Apr. 29, 1729; grad. Princeton, 1754; d. Nov. 24, 1789; m. Martha Minot, Jan. 24, 1757.
- viii. Rebecca, b. —; m. Joseph Hartwell, May 24, 1751.

William Sherman was a shoemaker by trade, residing at various times in Charlestown, Watertown, Newton, and Stoughton, Mass. He died intestate. Administration on his estate was granted to his widow, Mehetabel, April 21, 1741. The real estate was divided, Nov. 26, 1742, among his children: William, Roger, Nathaniel, Josiah, Elizabeth and Rebecca Sherman, and Mehetabel Battell, wife of John.

William Sherman bought lands in Stoughton from the Indians in 1725. They comprised 73 acres and were situated on the westerly side of the "way leading to the Dorchester swamp," now Pleasant Street. They were bounded on the west by land of Joseph Tucker.

On Feb. 7, 1743, Roger Sherman, of Stoughton, cordwainer, deeds to Stephen Badlam, of Dedham, the "home lot" of his father.

The inscription on the tombstone of Mrs. Mehetabel Sherman, at New Haven, Conn., reads:

"Mrs. Mehetabel Sherman, Relict of Mr. William Sherman of Stoughton. She was born at Watertown, Feb. 26.1687-8 O. S. & died April 12.1776 N. S. in the 89th year of her age. She was the youngest daughter of Benjamin Wellington son of Roger Wellington who came from England to Watertown N. England about the year 1635."

Another interesting and unique inscription is that on the tombstone of William(4) Sherman, at New Milford, giving his ancestry back to Capt. John of Watertown, Mass. It reads:

“Here lies the body of Mr. William Sherman who died Apr. y^e 20. 1756, Aged 39 years & 20 days. He was the son of William Sherman which was the son of Joseph Sherman which was the son of John Sherman of Water-town.”

X.(4) HON. ROGER SHERMAN, son of William and Mehetabel (Wellington) Sherman; born, Apr. 19, 1721, at Newton, Mass.; died, July 23, 1793, at New Haven, Conn.; married, first, Nov. 17, 1749, at Stoughton, Mass., **Elizabeth Hartwell**, daughter of Deacon Joseph and Mary (Tolman) Hartwell, who was born Aug. 31, 1726, at Dorchester, Mass., and died, Oct. 19, 1760, at New Milford, Conn.: married, secondly, May 12, 1763, at Danvers, Mass., **Rebecca Prescott**, daughter of Benjamin and Rebecca (Minot) Prescott, who was born, May 20, 1742, at Danvers, Mass., and died, April 19, 1813, at New Haven, Conn.

Children by first marriage: New Milford, Conn.

- i. **John(5)**, b. July 8, 1750; m. (1) Rebecca Austin, Aug. 23, 1771; m. (2) Nancy Tucker, Sept. 4, 1794.
- ii. William, b. Nov. 12, 1751; (Yale, 1770); d. June 26, 1789, at New Haven, Conn; m. Sarah Law, Nov. —, 1773.
- iii. Isaac, b. June 17, 1753; (Yale, 1770); d. unmarried, Feb. 16, 1819, in New Jersey.
- iv. Chloe, b. Dec. 26, 1754; d. Nov. 13, 1757, Æ. 2 y. 10 m. 17 d.
- v. Oliver, b. July 25, 1756; d. June 16, 1757.
- vi. Chloe, (2nd) b. —, 1757; d. Dec. 6, 1840; m. Dr. John Skinner, Feb. 9, 1794.

vii. Elizabeth, b. Sept. 28, 1760; d. young.

Children by second marriage: New Haven, Conn.

- viii. Rebecca, b. Feb. 22, 1764; bapt, Feb. 26, 1764; d. Sept. 4, 1795; m. Hon. Simeon Baldwin, July 29, 1787.
- ix. Elizabeth, b. Dec. 31, 1765; bapt. Jan. 5, 1766; d. July 16, 1850; m. (1) Sturges Burr, Nov. 19, 1794; m. (2) Hon. Simeon Baldwin, April 13, 1800.
- x. Roger, b. July 16, 1768; bapt. July 24, 1768; (Yale, 1787); d. Mar. 5, 1856; m. Susanna Staples, Sept. 1, 1801.
- xi. Mehetabel, b. Feb. 20, 1772; bapt. Mar. 1, 1772; d. Nov. 7, 1772.
- xii. Mehetabel, (2nd), b. Jan. 28, 1774; d. Mar. 5, 1851; m. (1) Daniel Barnes, Mar. 1, 1793; he d. Aug. 3, 1799; m. (2) Jeremiah Evarts, Sept. 10, 1804.
- xiii. Oliver (2nd), b. Jan. 19, 1777; bapt. May 25, 1777; (Yale, 1795); d. unmarried, 1820, in Havana, Cuba.
- xiv. Martha, b. Sept. 24, 1779; bapt. Oct. 31, 1779; d. April 4, 1806; m. Rev. Jeremiah Day, Jan. 14, 1805.
- xv. Sarah, b. Jan. 11, 1783; bapt. Feb. 16, 1783; d. Aug. 30, 1866; m. Hon. Samuel Hoar, Oct. 13, 1812.

Roger Sherman, named for his maternal great-grandfather, Roger Wellington, was born on what is now Waverley Avenue in the eastern part of Newtown, Mass. The son of a shoemaker and himself a shoemaker or, as then called, "cordwainer," he had hardly completed his

apprenticeship when his father died and he found himself, at the age of nineteen, the main support of a large family of younger brothers and sisters, and of his mother. In June, 1743, shortly after the settlement of his father's small estate, Roger, with the family, removed from Stoughton, Mass., to New Milford, Conn., where his elder brother, William, had previously established himself.

Such schooling as he had was scant, but by keeping a book open before him while at the bench he managed to acquire the elements of an English education and a considerable knowledge of mathematics for which he inherited a natural aptitude. He felt that he had capabilities for greater things than the awl and last. His great-grandfather, Capt. John, and his grandfather, Joseph, had been surveyors: Roger, too, resolved to follow their example, setting himself industriously to the task of fitting for that business, and succeeding so well that, within two years after his arrival in New Milford, he received from the General Assembly the appointment of Surveyor of Lands for the County of New Haven.

He continued in this business for nine years, 1745 to 1754, during which period he gave his spare time to the study of law. In 1749 he used his mathematical attainments for a new purpose, preparing the first of a series of Almanacs which he published for several years. Meanwhile he had saved some money, enabling him in 1748 to purchase from Gamaliel Baldwin of New Milford a farm for which he paid £1500, and in 1750, to enter into partnership with his brother, William, in a country store selling general merchandise. In this business he was interested for more than twenty years, when he was succeeded by his son, William.

After his admission to the bar, 1754, in Litchfield County, his real career began. "He was to fill a long succession of public trusts, affecting all the Colonies and the

States which succeeded them, to be bestowed upon him at a time of great events, and to be so well discharged as to make him one of the great figures of American history."

"A plain country lad, a hard-working journeyman at his trade, a busy surveyor, a shrewd store-keeper, a hard-headed lawyer, an industrious judge, he had qualities not of a kind that shine in polite society, but of a kind nevertheless that count in life, in every position which a man may be called to fill. . . . A man without eloquence, with no advantages of education, with no grace of manner. He had solid qualities, not shining ones; a lifelong love of liberty, but only as it was regulated by law; a steadfast devotion to duty; practical sagacity; calm and sound judgment in things both great and small." Such is the brief and apt characterization of him by his great-grandson, the Hon. Simeon E. Baldwin, Governor of Connecticut. To this properly may be added Thomas Jefferson's statement that "Roger Sherman never said a foolish thing in his life."

To no other man came the unique opportunity and good fortune to set his hand to all four of the great State papers, namely: The Address to the King, The Articles of Federation, The Declaration of Independence, and the Constitution of the United States.

Referring to his death, the Rev. Ezra Stiles, President of Yale College, in his Diary under date of July 23, 1793, makes this entry: "About VIIh, or about sunseting, a bright Luminary set in New Haven; the Hon. Roger Sherman, Esqr., died aet. 72 $\frac{1}{4}$, mayor of the city and senator in Congress."

He died at his residence on Chapel Street. His funeral on the 25th of July was attended from the North (now United) Church. The Rev. Jonathan Edwards officiated.

A portrait of him, by Earl, is in the possession of the White family in New Haven. Statues of him, by Ives, are

in the Capitol at Washington and the State House at Hartford.

SUMMARY OF HIS SERVICES:

1745-1753—County Surveyor, New Haven and Litchfield Counties.

1754—Admitted to the bar.

1755-1766—Deputy to the General Assembly; also Justice of the Peace and Justice of the Quorum.

1765-1776—Treasurer of Yale College.

1768—Received Honorary M. A., from Yale College.

1774—Signed the Articles of Association, and the Address to the King.

1776—Signed the Declaration of Independence.

1777, 1779, 1782—Member of the Council of Safety of Connecticut.

1774-1781—Delegate to the Continental Congress.

1783—Reviser of Connecticut Laws.

1784-1793—First Mayor of New Haven.

1787—Delegate to the Constitutional Convention.

1788—Delegate from New Haven to the Convention of Connecticut which ratified the Constitution.

1789-1791—Representative in Congress.

1791-1793—United States Senator from Connecticut.

Abstract of Hon. Roger Sherman's will:

First: To Rebekah my well beloved wife, £300. in Gold or Silver; all silver plate, furniture, etc.: use of easterly half of the Mansion House wherein I now dwell; also easterly half of barn and wood house adjoining to my garden; also other lands. Also to her the annual interest that shall accrue

on £200., stock in the funds of the United States, on which interest will commence, Jan. 1, 1801.

Item: To son John, in addition to what I have already given him, £10. lawful money.

Item: To son Isaac, in addition, etc., £160. of my stock in the funds of the United States.

Item: To son Roger, the Mansion House in which I now dwell, and land on which it stands.

Item: To son Oliver, the Mansion House and lot of land thereto adjoining that I lately purchased of my son John Sherman and his wife, situate in New Haven; also other land.

Item: To daughter Chloe, a Cherritree case of Drawers; and to my six daughters in equal proportions all the remainder of my household goods,—Chloe, Rebekah, Elizabeth, Mehetabel, Martha and Sarah.

Item: To each one of my daughters, £200. lawful money.

Item: To my granddaughter, Betsey Sherman, the only child of my son, William Sherman, deceased, £130. lawful money. . . . I having made considerable advancement to her father in his lifetime.

Item: All residue, etc., etc., to wife and all my children in equal portions.

Item: Daughters Chloe and Sarah to have use of chamber with fireplace; other daughters, use of south chamber with fireplace, . . . while they continue single.

ROGER SHERMAN.

Witnesses: STEPHEN BALL, STEPHEN BALL, JR., and JEREMIAH ATWATER.

Dated, Aug. 6, 1792; proved, Aug. 5, 1793, at New Haven, Conn.

The inscription on his tombstone reads:

In Memory of

THE HON. ROGER SHERMAN, ESQ^R

Mayor of the City of New Haven

and Senator of the United States

He was born at Newtown in Massachusetts

April 19th 1721

and died at New Haven July 23^d A D 1793

aged LXXII

Possessed of a strong clear penetrating Mind

and singular perseverance

he became a self-taught Scholar

eminent for Jurisprudence and Policy.

He was nineteen years an assistant

and 23 years a Judge of the Superior Court

in high Reputation.

He was a Delegate in the first Congress

signed the glorious act of Independence

& many years displayed superior Talents & Ability

in the National Legislature.

He was a Member of the general Convention,

approved the Federal Constitution,

and served his Country with fidelity & honor

in the House of Representatives,

and in the Senate of the United States.

He was a man of approved Integrity,

a cool discerning Judge,

prudent, sagacious Politician,

a true faithful and firm Patriot.

He ever adorned

the profession of Christianity

which he made in Youth,

and distinguished through Life

for public usefulness

died in the prospect

of a blessed Immortality.

XI.(5) CAPT. JOHN SHERMAN, son of Hon. Roger and Elizabeth (Hartwell) Sherman; born, July 8, 1750, at New Milford, Conn.; died, Aug. 6, 1802, at Canton, Mass.; married first, Aug. 23, 1771, at New Haven, Conn., **Rebecca Austin**, daughter of Deacon David and Mary (Mix) Austin, who was bapt., Dec. 16, 1753, at New Haven, and died, Mar. 12, 1830, at Suffield, Conn. She divorced him in January, 1794. He married secondly, Sept. 4, 1794, at Canton, Mass., **Anna Tucker**, daughter of Joseph and Mary (Dana) Tucker, who was born, Sept. 27, 1762, at Milton, Mass., and died, Dec. 7, 1858, at Canton.

Children by first marriage: New Haven.

- i. John(6), b. June 3, 1772; bapt. Sept. 29, 1782; grad. Yale, 1792; d. Aug. 2, 1828, at Trenton Falls, N. Y.; m. Abigail Perkins, Feb. 10, 1798.
- ii. Maria, b. Sept. 30, 1774; bapt. Sept. 29, 1782; d. Sept. 21, 1857, at Stonington, Conn.; m. Rev. Ira Hart, Dec. 3, 1798.
- iii. Harriet, b. Sept. 30, 1776; bapt. Sept. 29, 1782; d. May 2, 1795.
- iv. Elizabeth, b. Sept. 10, 1778; bapt. Sept. 29, 1782; d. Nov. 3, 1834, at Montville, Conn.; m. Rev. Erastus Ripley, May 8, 1798.
- v. David Austin, b. Dec. 10, 1781; bapt. Sept. 29, 1782; grad. Yale, 1802; d. Dec. 16, 1843, at Racine, Wis.; m. Mary Ann Babcock, Oct. 6, 1813.
- vi. **Charles**, b. Nov. 28, 1783; bapt. Jan. 18, 1784; d. Mar. 20, 1844; m. (1) Sophia Staples, Sept. 29, 1808; m. (2) Jennet Taylor, May 20, 1814.

vii. Henry, b. Oct. 16, 1785; bapt. Dec. 11, 1785; grad. Yale, 1803; d. Feb. 4, 1817, at New Haven, Conn.; m. Martha Denison, Oct. 7, 1813.

Children by second marriage: Canton.

viii. Nancy, b. Nov. 28, 1794; d. Sept. 19, 1836; m. Gideon Mackintosh, Nov. 5, 1812.

ix. Lucinda, b. Aug. 16, 1796; m. Thomas Littlefield, Apr. 12, 1818.

The following is an interesting letter written by Capt. John Sherman to his father:

New Haven, Decem. 8th, 1788.

MOST RESPECTED PARENT:

My departure from this place is absolutely necessary on Account of my entering into business, the Trade of this City at present is not an Object of Importance, & scarcely of Support. I am now in the prime of life, I hope my friends will not think me lost, my determinations are just, that is to pay all their dues and owe no one anything, in consequence of which I shall advise you & Esq. Austin likewise Mrs. Sherman the place of my residence, the Settlement & my public Accounts will be attended to by me as soon as the public are ready to make me payment for my Services, otherwise I should have left the United States for a few years, & this is only what prevents. I most probably shall fix my residence at Charles Town or Savannah, unhappy it is the past, I did not take your advice, it would not have obliged me to take the present measure. I think that the most unfeeling Heart would not wish to distress Mrs. Sherman & the Children in my absence. I leave them to your care—you will please to assert their rights & be their Just protector, & may the most Cordial Friendship ever subsist betwixt you & Esq. Austin. I wish each

of you length of days & that your usefulness may be preserved to the last, & that each of your Families may be happy (my own unhappiness proceeds from myself only).

I am with every respect

Your son JOHN SHERMAN.

(On back) Roger Sherman Esq., New Haven.

Capt. John Sherman was a soldier of the Revolution. He enlisted in 1776 and served about six years as a Lieutenant and Paymaster under Col. Butler, of Connecticut, receiving a commission of Captain by brevet at the close of the war. For several years he was engaged in business in New Haven. He taught school in Canton, Mass., in 1794 and 1795.

On Nov. 7, 1848, Nancy Tucker Sherman, of Canton, Norfolk Co., Mass., aged 86 years, applied for a pension as the widow of John Sherman. She states as follows: "John Sherman, born in New Milford, Conn., was the eldest son of Roger Sherman, signer of the Declaration of Independence, and at the time of his death a Senator in the Congress of the United States." She also gives the date of her marriage: Sept. 4, 1794, in Canton (then Stoughton), Mass., and the date of her husband's death,— Aug. 6, 1802.

He died intestate. Administration on his estate was granted to his widow, Anna Sherman, of Canton Mass., on Oct. 5, 1802. She gave bond in the sum of \$20,000.

Nancy Tucker Sherman also died intestate. Administration on her estate was granted, Feb. 4, 1859, to Charles G. Mackintosh, of West Roxbury, Mass., who gave a bond in the sum of \$16,000.

David Austin, the father of Rebecca, who married John Sherman, was a prominent citizen of New Haven. On Dec. 22, 1795, when sixty-three, he was chosen the first

president of the New Haven Bank. He had neither business nor profession, but was a man of property, leaving an estate of over \$30,000. He was a deacon in the North Church for forty-three years; an alderman under Mayor Roger Sherman; member of various important committees; and Collector of Customs from 1793 until his death in 1801 at the age of sixty-nine. He lived on the southeast corner of Church and Crown Streets.

Rebecca Austin Sherman is buried in the Charles Sherman burial lot in the Suffield Cemetery. The inscription on her tombstone reads: "Mrs. Rebecca A. Sherman of New Haven died March 12, 1830, aged 76. Professing the religion of Christ, her life evinced love to His cause."

Three of her sons, John, David Austin and Henry, were ministers.

XII.(6) MAJ. CHARLES SHERMAN, son of Capt. John and Rebecca (Austin) Sherman; born, Nov. 28, 1783; and bapt., Jan. 18, 1784, at New Haven, Conn.; died, Mar. 20, 1844, at Suffield, Conn.; married first, Sept. 29, 1808, at Canterbury, Conn., **Sophia Staples**, daughter of John and Susanna (Perkins) Staples, who was born Oct. 12, 1791, at Canterbury, and died, April 3, 1813, at New Haven: married secondly, May 20, 1814, at New York City, N. Y., **Jennet Taylor**, daughter of John and Margaret (Scott) Taylor, who was born Dec. 30, 1794, at New York City, and died, Aug 6, 1843, at Suffield.

Children by first marriage: New Haven.

- i. Charles Austin(7), b. June 4, 1810; d. Jan. 13, 1883, at New York City; m. Cornelia Caroline Hatheway, Oct. 4, 1842.
- ii. Elizabeth Ripley, b. Feb. 29, 1812; d. July 27, 1813.

Children by second marriage: iii-v, New Haven. vi-xv, Suffield.

- iii. Margaret Scott, b. Feb. 8, 1815; d. Feb. 15, 1895, at Elizabeth, N. J.; m. William Watt, Jan. 1, 1836.
- iv. Henry, b. April 16, 1817; d. Nov. 24, 1888, at Wilmette, Ill.; m. (1) Cynthia Painter Collins, Sept. 5, 1841; m. (2) Martha Ann Watson, Oct. 29, 1845.
- v. James Taylor, b. Apr. 17, 1819; d. Dec. 22, 1907, at De Funiak Springs, Fla.; m. Abigail Talcott Morgan, Feb. 9, 1842.
- vi. Andrew Taylor, b. Sept. 1, 1821; d. Feb. 5, 1891, at Chicago, Ill.; m. (1) Sophia Dodgeson, July 4, 1843; m. (2) Julia Florence Aldrich, Jan. 1, 1862.
- vii. Jane Taylor, b. June 18, 1823; d. Mar. 13, 1896, at Tarrytown, N. Y.; m. (1) Dr. James Morven Smith, May 8, 1845; m. (2) James Henry Osgood, June 3, 1856.
- viii. Harriet, b. Sept. 17, 1825; d. Feb. 2, 1889, at Pittsfield, Mass.; m. (1) Dr. Clark Wright, Oct. 30, 1856; m. (2) Rev. Edward Strong, Sept. 10, 1874.
- ix. Eliza Taylor, b. June 15, 1827; d. June 13, 1887; m. John Sloane, Sept. 7, 1848.
- x. Janet Taylor, b. July 23, 1829; died single, Apr. 2, 1903.
- xi. **John Taylor**, b. Nov. 10, 1831; d. March 10, 1906, at Brooklyn, N. Y.; m. Julia Champion Deming, May 10, 1859.

- xii. Robert Taylor, b. Mar. 31, 1834; d. Sept. 14, 1891, at Elizabeth, N. J.; m. Maria Augusta Hewitt, Jan. 15, 1866.
- xiii. Roger, b. Apr. 5, 1837; d. Aug. 10, 1846.
- xiv. William Watt, b. Aug. 30, 1839; unm.; d. Dec. 3, 1875, at Chicago, Ill.
- xv. Walter, b. July 9, 1843; unm.; d. Feb. 22, 1880, at Wilmette, Ill.

Maj. Charles Sherman served in the Connecticut Militia during the War of 1812. The records in the Adjutant General's office at Washington, D. C., show that he was Major in the 1st Battalion of Artillery, June 11-13, 1813; in Col. Elihu Sanford's Regiment, Sept. 8, to Oct. 21, 1814; and in Maj. Noah S. Barnum's Command, Nov. 9, to Dec. 15, 1814.

For many years he was engaged in the Dry Goods business in New Haven, being the senior member in the firm of Sherman & Street. Sometime before 1821 he established his residence in Suffield and was Deacon in the Congregational Church there throughout his life time.

His youngest two sons served in the Civil War; William Watt Sherman in the 62nd Regt., N. Y. Volunteers, and Walter Sherman in Battalion 'B,' Light Artillery, Illinois.

His will dated, March 6, 1844; proved, March 26, 1844, Suffield, Conn.; proved Apr. 25, 1844, in New York City.

Gives to son, Charles A. Sherman, the portrait of his grandfather, Roger Sherman, and the picture of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence.

To son, Henry Sherman, the portraits of Prince Albert and Queen Victoria.

Property in Wisconsin Territory, consisting of a Farm lying in the County of Milwaukee, given

to son, Charles A. Sherman, and son-in-law, William Watt, to be held in trust for purposes which he has explained to them.

Remainder of the estate unto the following children, to be divided equally among them, viz.: Margaret (wife of William Watt), James T., Andrew T., Jane T., Harriet, Eliza T., Jennett T., John T., Robert T., Roger, William Watt and Walter Sherman.

Executors directed to make the division when the youngest child shall have attained the age of 21 yrs.

Son, Charles A. Sherman, and son-in-law, William Watt, appointed executors.

CHARLES SHERMAN.

Witnesses: SHADRACK TRUMBULL, ALBERT JONES, and THOMAS C. AUSTIN.

A Codicil, dated March 6, 1844, is added. It gives explicit directions about the Farm in Wisconsin, which is eventually to go to sons Henry and Andrew T. Sherman "whenever they can hold said property without its being taken from them for past debts incurred before they removed to Wisconsin."

XIII.(7) JOHN TAYLOR SHERMAN, son of Maj. Charles and Jennet (Taylor) Sherman; born, Nov. 10, 1831, at Suffield, Conn.; died, Mar. 10, 1906, at Brooklyn, N. Y.; married, May 10, 1859, at Brooklyn, **Julia Champion Deming**, daughter of Frederick and Mary (Gleason) Deming, who was born, Mar. 7, 1836, at Brooklyn, and died, Aug. 8, 1888, at Brooklyn.

Children: Brooklyn.

- i. Louise Deming(8), b. May 24, 1860; d. May 26, 1862.
- ii. **Charles Austin**, b. June 24, 1862; m. Leila Morse Willis, Nov. 24, 1897.

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- iii. **Alice**, b. Apr. 28, 1864; d. Sept. 22, 1901; m. Charles Adams, Oct. 21, 1890.
- iv. Henry Deming, b. Jan. 7, 1866; d. Sept. 28, 1866.
- v. **Gertrude Mary**, b. May 5, 1867; m. Alexander Buel Trowbridge, Aug. 17, 1896.
- vi. **Helen Deming**, b. Oct. 21, 1869; m. George Dupont Pratt, Feb. 2, 1897.
- vii. **Frederick Deming**, b. Feb. 23, 1872; Yale, 1895; d. Apr. 30, 1914; m. Leslie Whitman, Jan. 30, 1900.
- viii. **Jessie Taylor**, b. Jan. 5, 1882; m. James Dominick Hackett, Nov. 7, 1914.

John Taylor Sherman attended school at Derry, N. H., until 1847 when he came to New York City and entered the business house of Watt, Dunning & Graham, dealers in White Goods. The leading member of this firm, William Watt, was his brother-in-law. Mr. Sherman was admitted into partnership about 1859 and remained in the business until his death, the house becoming Sherman & Sons Company, and being continued by his sons, Charles Austin Sherman, as President, and Frederick Deming Sherman, as Vice-President and Treasurer.

He was a member of the Hamilton Club, of Brooklyn; the Seawanhaka Corinthian Yacht Club, at Oyster Bay; and The New England Society.

Residence: Brooklyn, N. Y.

His will dated, Nov. 18, 1892; proved, Mar. 24, 1906.

Leaves his entire estate to his children, share and share alike.

Son, Charles A. Sherman, and daughter, Alice S. Adams, appointed executors.

JOHN T. SHERMAN.

Witnesses: AARON L. REID, JR., and ROBERT P. DODD.

XIV.(8) CHARLES AUSTIN SHERMAN, son of John Taylor and Julia Champion (Deming) Sherman; born, June 24, 1862, at Brooklyn, N. Y.; married, Nov. 24, 1897, at New York City, **Leila Morse Willis**, daughter of Charles Ellmaker and Sarah Townsend (Minor) Willis, who was born, Oct. 25, 1876, at Oyster Bay, N. Y.

Children: Brooklyn.

- i. Charles Austin, Jr. (9), b. Sept. 29, 1898;
- ii. Leila Willis, b. Dec. 5, 1903;

Charles Austin Sherman was educated at the Brooklyn Collegiate and Polytechnic Institute, and entered at once upon a business career. He is President of Sherman & Sons Company, (Inc.), and a Director in the So-Luminum Company, New York City.

For several years he has been actively interested in the Navy Y. M. C. A., being Chairman of the Committee on Management of the Brooklyn branch. He is a Trustee of the Seawanhaka Corinthian Yacht Club and for a long time has been active on the Race and other standing committees.

He is a member of the following clubs: Union, Racquet and Tennis (New York), Travellers (Paris), Seawanhaka Corinthian Yacht, Piping Rock, Nassau Country, and National Golf Links of America; also of the Sons of the Revolution, Navy League, and National Security League.

Residences: Oyster Bay, and Flushing, N. Y.

XIV.(8) ALICE SHERMAN, daughter of John Taylor and Julia Champion (Deming) Sherman; born, April 28, 1864, at Brooklyn, N. Y.; died, Sept. 22, 1901, at Brooklyn; married, Oct. 21, 1890, at Brooklyn, **Charles Adams**, son of Joseph Hinman and Emeline Ann (McKee) Adams, who was born, May 7, 1864, at Terryville, Conn.; A. B., Yale, 1887.

No children.

Charles Adams is a broker. He is a member of the Psi Upsilon Society, Wolf's Head (Yale), and Sons of the Revolution.

XIV.(8) GERTRUDE MARY SHERMAN, daughter of John Taylor and Julia Champion (Deming) Sherman; born, May 5, 1867, at Brooklyn, N. Y.; married, Aug. 17, 1896, at Great Neck, L. I., **Alexander Buel Trowbridge**, son of Maj. Gen. Luther Stephen and Julia Maria (Buel) Trowbridge, who was born, Sept. 3, 1868, at Detroit, Mich.; B. S., in Architecture, Cornell, 1890.

Children (*Trowbridge*): i, Detroit. ii, iii, Ithaca, N. Y.
iv, Sands Point, L. I.

- i. Sherman (9), b. May 23, 1897;
- ii. Alexander Buel, Jr., b. Dec. 19, 1899;
- iii. Alice (twin), b. Dec. 19, 1899;
- iv. Stephen Van Rensselaer, b. Aug. 15, 1907; d. Apr. 28, 1914.

Alexander Buel Trowbridge studied Architecture at Cornell University and the École des Beaux Arts in Paris. From 1897 to 1902 he was Dean and Director of the School of Architecture at Cornell. Since 1904 he has practiced as an architect in New York.

He is a member of the Kappa Alpha Society, American Institute of Architects, Society of Beaux Arts Architects, and the Architectural League; also of the following clubs: Century, Cornell University (New York), Flushing Country (Long Island), Nassau (Princeton), and University (Detroit).

Residence: Flushing, Long Island.

XIV.(8) HELEN DEMING SHERMAN, daughter of John Taylor and Julia Champion (Deming) Sherman; born, Oct. 21, 1869, at Brooklyn, N. Y.; married, Feb. 2, 1897, at Brooklyn, **George Dupont Pratt**, son of Charles and Mary Helen (Richardson) Pratt, who was born Aug. 16, 1869, at Brooklyn; A. B., Amherst, 1893.

Children (*Pratt*): i, ii, v, Brooklyn. iii, iv, Glen Cove, L. I.

- i. George Dupont, Jr.(9), b. May 1, 1898;
- ii. Sherman, b. Mar. 22, 1900;
- iii. Eliot Deming, b. Aug. 25, 1903;
- iv. Constance, b. June 2, 1906; d. Aug. 4, 1906.
- v. Dorothy Deming, b. Nov. 1, 1909;

George Dupont Pratt was appointed by Governor Whitman, in 1915, Conservation Commissioner of the State of New York. He is an officer in many institutions and organizations: Trustee and Treasurer of Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, founded by his father; Vice-President of the Brooklyn Art Museum; Treasurer of the Boy Scouts of America; President of the Camp Fire Club; and Chairman of the Physical Department, Y. M. C. A., of Brooklyn. He is also a member of the Mayor's Commission on Public Recreation, New York City.

He is a hunter of big game; an expert photographer of wild life; an enthusiastic collector of Flemish paintings,

Chinese porcelains, Persian potteries and Greek glass; and has done some interesting work as a sculptor.

He is a member of the following clubs: Century, University, New York Yacht, Piping Rock, Mid-day, Aero, Automobile, Boone and Crockett, and Wild Life Protective; also of the New York Zoölogical Society.

Mrs. Pratt possesses a unique portrait of her great-great-grandfather, Hon. Roger Sherman. It is almost a miniature in size, and evidently was done from life when the Signer was advanced in years. She has also some ivory miniatures of her grandfather, Maj. Charles Sherman, and members of his family.

Residences: New York City, and "Killenworth," Glen Cove, Long Island.

XIV.(8) FREDERICK DEMING SHERMAN, son of John Taylor and Julia Champion (Deming) Sherman; born, Feb. 23, 1872, at Brooklyn, N. Y.; B. S., Sheffield Scientific School, Yale, 1895; died, April 30, 1914, at Brooklyn; married, Jan. 30, 1900, at Brooklyn, **Leslie Whitman**, daughter of Isaac Allen and Cecilia Augusta (Robinson) Whitman, who was born, May 2, 1868, at Brooklyn.

Children: i, ii, Brooklyn. iii, Short Hills, N. J.

- i. Elizabeth Whitman(9), b. Apr. 10, 1901;
- ii. John Taylor, b. May 27, 1903;
- iii. Frederick Deming, Jr., b. May 9, 1906;

Frederick Deming Sherman was Vice-President and Treasurer of Sherman & Sons Company, (Inc.), New York City.

He was a member of the following clubs: Yale (New York), Hamilton (Brooklyn), Nassau Country, and Dyker Meadow Golf.

Residences: Brooklyn, and "Breeze Bluff," Sands Point, L. I.

XIV.(8) JESSIE TAYLOR SHERMAN, daughter of John Taylor and Julia Champion (Deming) Sherman; born, Jan. 5, 1882, at Brooklyn, N. Y.; married, Nov. 7, 1914, at Glen Cove, N. Y., **James Dominick Hackett**, son of Dr. John Byrne and Bridget (Doheny) Hackett, who was born, April 14, 1877, at Kilkenny, Ireland.

Children (*Hackett*): New York City.

- i. John Dominick Sherman(9), b. Aug. 17, 1915;

James Dominick Hackett was educated at Clongowes Wood College, Ireland, and is a Licentiate of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland. He came to the United States in 1904, associating himself with the Nichols Copper Company of which, until 1915, he was Welfare Manager.

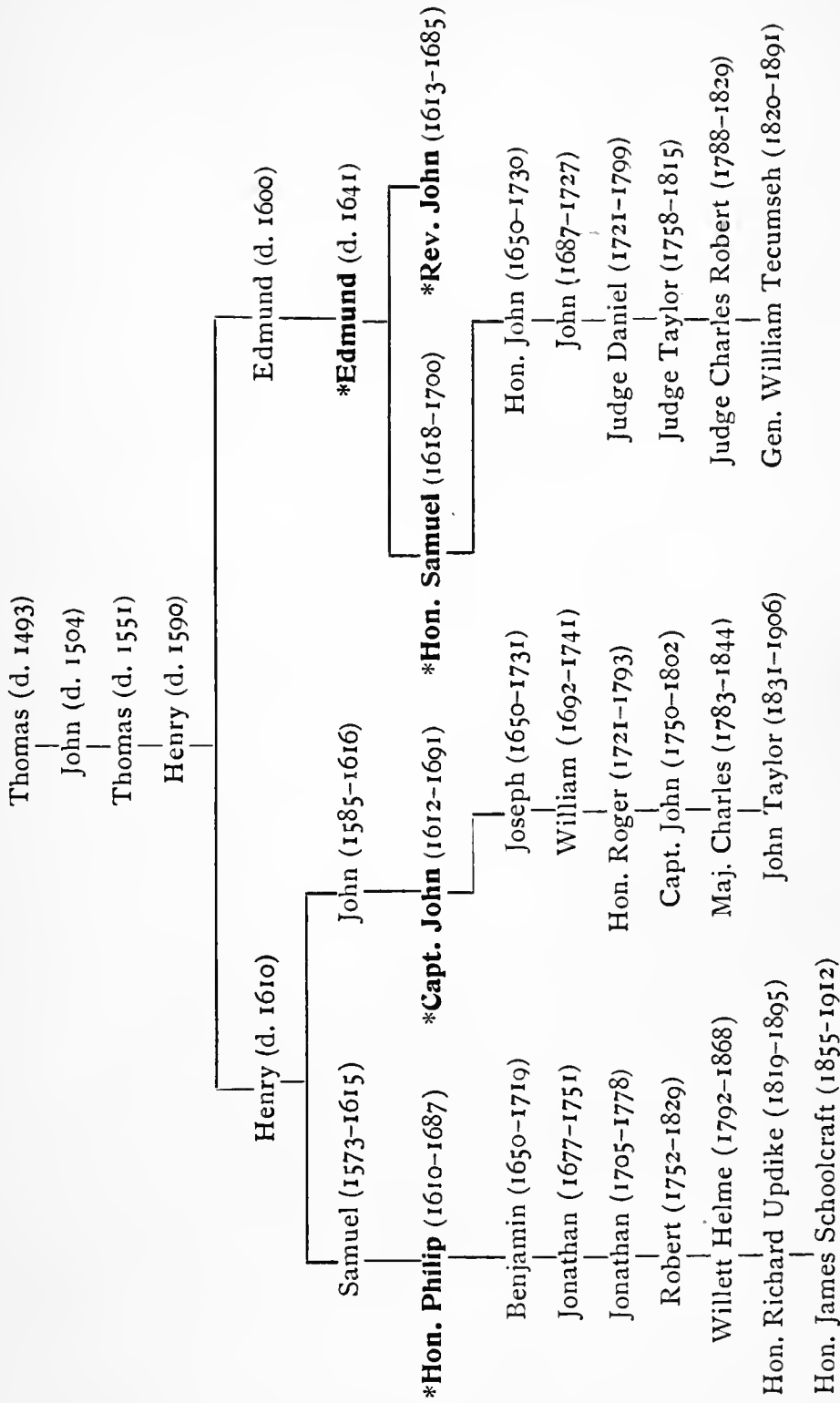
He has contributed to the press articles on Irish Pedigrees and Surnames, and on Heraldry, besides writing for technical journals on Factory Hygiene, Accident Prevention, Factory Efficiency, Labor Employment and Safety Organization.

He is a member of the Irish Text Society, of London; Society of Genealogists, of London; Gaelic League, of Dublin; Louth Archaeological Society; Cork Archaeological Society; and Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, New York.

Residence: New York City.



INTER-RELATIONSHIP OF SOME OF THE MORE PROMINENT FAMILIES



* These came to New England between 1632 and 1636.

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11/15

